

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (cancelled).
2. (cancelled).
3. (cancelled).
4. (cancelled).
5. (cancelled).
6. (cancelled).
7. (cancelled).
8. (cancelled).
9. (cancelled).
10. (cancelled).
11. (cancelled).
12. (cancelled).
13. (cancelled).
14. (cancelled).
15. (cancelled).
16. (cancelled).
17. (cancelled).
18. (cancelled).
19. (cancelled).

20. (new) A secondary station for use in a communication system comprising a primary station and a secondary station, the secondary station comprising:

receiver means for receiving at least a first and/or a second signal transmitted by the primary station;

measurement means for measuring at least at least one characteristic of the received first and/or second signal;

processing means for deriving at least one power control command and/or at least one channel quality report from a measured characteristic;

transmitter means for transmitting control information including at least one power control command to the primary station and/or at least one channel quality report at a predetermined rate; and

control means responsive to the primary station failing to adjust its transmit power in compliance with at least one transmitted power control command for modifying at least one parameter of the control information transmitted to the primary station, wherein the control means is adapted to modify the parameter by causing one or more channel quality reports to be transmitted at a rate different from the predetermined rate.

21. (new) A secondary station as claimed in claim 20, wherein the control means is adapted to modify at least one parameter of the control information transmitted to the primary station by generating an indication of a power step size for transmission to the primary station to use when adjusting its transmit power.

22. (new) A secondary station as claimed in claim 20, wherein the control means is adapted to receive an indication of the failure of the primary station to adjust its transmit power in compliance with at least one transmitted power control command.

23. (new) A secondary station as claimed in claim 20, wherein the control means is adapted to store an indication of one or more predetermined times at which the primary station may fail to adjust its transmit power in compliance with at least one transmitted power control command and wherein the control means is responsive to the occurrence of one or more predetermined times for modifying the parameter of the control information transmitted to the primary station.

24. (new) A secondary station as claimed in claim 20, wherein the control means is adapted to detect failure of the primary station to adjust its transmit power in compliance with at least one transmitted power control command.

25. (new) A secondary station as claimed in claim 24, wherein the control means is adapted to detect failure of the primary station to adjust its transmit power in compliance with at least one transmitted power control command by determining the signal-to-interference ratio (SIR) of a received signal and by detecting when a function of the SIR fulfils a predetermined criterion.

26. (new) A secondary station for use in a communication system comprising a primary station and a secondary station, the secondary station comprising:

receiver means for receiving at least one signal transmitted by the primary station;

measurement means for measuring at least one characteristic of a received signal;

processing means for deriving one or more power control commands and/or one or more channel quality reports from a measured characteristic, whereby at least one channel quality report is derived by averaging the function of at least one measured characteristic over a first time period;

transmitter means for transmitting at least control information including at least one or more power control commands and/or one or more channel quality reports to the primary station;

control means responsive to the primary station failing to adjust its transmit power in compliance with one or more transmitted power control commands for modifying a parameter of the control information transmitted to the primary station, wherein the control means is adapted to modify a parameter by causing the averaging to be performed over a second time period different from the first time period.

27. (new) A secondary station as claimed in claim 26, wherein the control means is adapted to modify a parameter of the control information transmitted to the primary station by generating an indication of a power step size for transmission to the primary station to use when adjusting its transmit power.

28. (new) A secondary station as claimed in claim 26, wherein the control means is adapted to receive an indication of the failure of the primary station to adjust its transmit power in compliance with one or more transmitted power control commands.

29. (new) A secondary station as claimed in claim 26, wherein the control means is adapted to store an indication of one or more time periods at which the primary station may fail to adjust its transmit power in compliance with a transmitted power control command and wherein the control means is responsive to the occurrence of the one or more time periods for modifying a parameter of the control information transmitted to the primary station.

30. (new) A secondary station as claimed in claim 26, wherein the control means is adapted to detect failure of the primary station to adjust its transmit power in compliance with one or more transmitted power control commands.

31. (new) A secondary station as claimed in claim 30, wherein the control means is adapted to detect failure of the primary station to adjust its transmit power in compliance with one or more transmitted power control commands by determining the signal-to-interference ratio (SIR) of a received signal and by detecting when a function of the SIR fulfils a criterion.

32. (new) A method of operating a communication system comprising a primary station and a secondary station, the method comprising the steps of:

transmitting at least one signal from the primary station;

receiving, at the secondary station, the at least one transmitted signal, and measuring at least one characteristic of the received signal, deriving one or more power control commands and/or one or more channel quality reports from at least one measured characteristic, and transmitting control

information including at least one power control command and/or at least one channel quality report at a predetermined rate;

receiving, at the primary station, the at least one power control command and/or at least one channel quality report, adjusting the transmit power of a signal in compliance with a received power control command provided that the adjustment is within the contemporaneous capability of the primary station, and/or determining at least one parameter of a signal in response to a channel quality report;

modifying, at the secondary station, in response to the primary station failing to adjusting the transmit power in compliance with a received power control command, at least one parameter of the transmitted control information; and

adapting, at the primary station, in response to receiving modified control information, a characteristic of a transmission;

wherein modifying a parameter of control information transmitted to the primary station includes transmitting at least one channel quality report at a rate different from the predetermined rate.

33. (new) A method as claimed in claim 32, wherein modifying a parameter of the control information includes transmitting an indication of a power step size for use by the primary station when adjusting its transmit power.

34. (new) A method as claimed in claim 32, wherein times at which the primary station fails to adjust the transmit power in compliance with one or more received power control commands are predetermined.

35. (new) A method as claimed in claim 32, further comprising the step of:

detecting, at the primary station, a failure of the primary station to adjust the transmit power in compliance with one or more received power control commands and, in response to detecting such failure, transmitting to the secondary station an indication of the failure.

36. (new) A method as claimed in claim 32, further comprising the step of:

detecting, at the secondary station, a failure of the primary station to adjust the transmit power in compliance with one or more received power control commands.

37. (new) A method as claimed in claim 36, wherein detecting a failure includes determining a signal-to-interference ratio (SIR) of a received signal and detecting when a function of the SIR fulfils a criterion.

38. (new) A method of operating a communication system comprising a primary station and a secondary station, the method comprising:

transmitting at least one signal from the primary station;

receiving, at the secondary station, the at least one transmitted signal, and measuring at least one characteristic of the received signal, deriving one or more power control commands and/or one

or more channel quality reports from a measured characteristic, whereby at least one channel quality report is derived by averaging a function of a measured characteristic of a first time period, and transmitting one or more channel quality reports and/or control information including at least one power control command;

receiving, at the primary station, at least one channel quality report and/or at least one power control command, determining at least one parameter of a signal in response to a channel quality report and/or adjusting the transmit power of a signal in compliance with a received power control command provided that the adjustment is within the contemporaneous capability of the primary station;

modifying, at the secondary station, in response to the primary station failing to adjusting the transmit power in compliance with a received power control command, at least one parameter of the transmitted control information; and

adapting, at the primary station, in response to receiving modified control information, a characteristic of a transmission;

wherein modifying a parameter of the control information includes averaging a function of a measured characteristic over a second time period different from the first time period.

39. (new) A method as claimed in claim 38, wherein modifying the parameter of the control information transmitted to the primary station includes transmitting an indication of a power step size for use by the primary station when adjusting its transmit power.

40. (new) A method as claimed in claim 38, wherein times at which the primary station fails to adjust the transmit power in compliance with one or more received power control commands are predetermined.

41. (new) A method as claimed in claim 38, further comprising the step of:

Detecting, at the primary station, a failure of the primary station to adjust the transmit power in compliance with one or more received power control commands and, in response to detecting such failure, transmitting to the secondary station an indication of the failure.

42. (new) A method as claimed in claim 38, further comprising the step of:

detecting, at the secondary station, a failure of the primary station to adjust the transmit power in compliance with one or more received power control commands.

43. (new) A method as claimed in claim 42, wherein detecting a failure includes determining a signal-to-interference ratio (SIR) of a received signal and detecting when a function of the SIR fulfils a criterion.